	Technologies		Achievement
26	Computerized equipment monitoring	package for condition	Lab model/proto type developed for field trial
27	Universal power pack	un-interrupted	Proto type developed for field trial

Mines accident in West Bengal

292. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of COAL & MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several illegal miners were killed in mine collapse near Asansol in West Bengal on 10th October, 2001;

(b) if so, how illegal mining of coal of the abandoned colliering was going; and

(c) the control of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. over the abondoned mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The district authorities have not been able to confirm the casualities.

(b) The incident did not occur in an abandoned mine. Illegal mining was going on under a private land at Lalband about 15 Kms. from Asansol town, which does not come under the jurisdiction of Coal India Limited.

(c) ECL has taken the following measures to check illegal mining in abandoned mines:

(i) Permanent sealing off the entries *i.e.* shafts, inclines etc. of abandoned underground mines.
(ii) In case of opencast mines, some are drowned, in some cases, exposed coal is filled up/dozed off.
(iii) Fences are erected with notices not to enter the abandoned area.
(iv) Dozing off and filling up of illegal mining sites wherever possible.

(v) Patrolling by own security forces and Central Industrial Security Force(CISF).

(vi) Intelligence collection and close liaison with District authority.

(vii) Whenever illegally mined coal and implements of illegal mining are seized during the course of raids, the same is handed over to local police and FIR lodged.

Shortage of raw material supplied by NALCO

293. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that hundreds of small scale industrial units manufacturing aluminium utensils, are facing difficulties due to irregular and inadequate supply of raw material by National Aluminium Company (NALCO);

(b) if so, the reasons for inadequate supply of raw material by NALCO; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to ensure regular and adequate supply of raw material by NALCO to the utensil manufacturing units in order to save them from closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) In view of the BALCO strike during March, 2001 to May, 2001, there was no production of aluminium metal in BALCO. This caused shifting of demand of BALCO metal to other primary producers including NALCO leading to relatively higher demand compared to supply. As a result, NALCO resorted to rationing of despatches of metal to its customers during 14.6.2001 to 4.10.2001. However, as of now there is no irregular and inadequate supply of aluminium metal by NALCO to its customers.

(c) Does not arise.